

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 01234 261534Z  
ACTION EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /004 W  
-----029635 261540Z /40  
P 261306Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7139

S E C R E T MOSCOW 1234

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OGEN  
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. EMPLOYEES HAVE RPT HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THERE  
HAVE BEEN NO HIGH-LEVEL BURSTS SINCE NOV. 7  
(STATE 20971, PARA 2).

2. WE ARE FRANKLY PERPLEXED AT SOME OF ATTITUDES REFLECTED  
IN PARA 10, STATE 20971. AS WE ARE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND:

A. SOVIET CLAIMS RE ENTRAPMENT ARE ABSURD (EVEN  
IF PROCEDURE WAS CONTROLLED AT SOME POINT, SOVIET  
OFFICIAL CLEARLY SHOWED HIS TRUE AFFILIATION AND  
INTERESTS; A REAL ENTRAPMENT WOULD HAVE INVOLVED  
THRUSTING SOMETHING UNSOLICITED ON UNSUSPECTING  
INDIVIDUAL AND SWOOPING IN). SOVIETS KNOW THIS, SO  
THEIR CLAIMS CAN ONLY BE CONSIDERED ATTEMPT TO  
INTRODUCE RED HERRING IN A SITUATION WHICH IS CRYSTAL  
CLEAR. THEY SHOULD BE TOLD THIS IN NO UNDERTAIN TERMS.

B. SINCE THEY RPT THEY HAVE MISUSED THEIR TRADE OFFICE BY  
USING IT FOR COVER, WE SHOULD HIT THIS POINT HARD AND NOT  
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BE DEFLECTED.

C. SINCE THE IMPLICATIONS ARE GREAT FOR THEIR  
TRADE REPRESENTATION, WE SHOULD GO ON RECORD WITH MFT.  
WE FEEL THAT NO RPT NO MEETING WITH MANZHULO WOULD  
BE PREFERABLE TO A MEETING WHICH DIDNOT MENTION THIS  
MATTER. AFTER ALL, IT IS MFT WHICH BEARS FORMAL

RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTIVITIES OF THEIR TRADE REPRESENTATION IN WASHINGTON, AND ALSO WHICH STANDS TO LOSE (ALONG WITH KGB AND GRU) IF SOVS PUCH MATTER FURTHER.

D. SINCE RESOLUTION OF THIS MATTER WITHOUT FURTHER BLOODLETTING DEPENDS ENTIRELY ON CREDIBILITY OF OUR POSITION REGARDING SUBSEQUENT MOVES, WE WOULD HOPE THAT OUR MESSAGE REMAINS LOUD AND CLEAR AND IS NOT CONFUSED BY HASSLING OVER IRRELEVANT MATTERS.

3. IN REGARD TO LAST SENTENCE, PARA 10, STATE 20971, WE DO NOT SEE HOW PERSONNEL SHIFTS COULD HAVE AFFECT ON SOVIET DECISION, PROVIDED APPROACH OUTLINED ABOVE IS TAKEN. IT MAY EVEN BE SALUTORY TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WE CAN CARRY ON WITHOUT BREAKING STEP. THEY COULD NOT DO SO IF MATTER GOES FURTHER AND WE ARE FIRM IN DOING WHAT WE SHOULD: I.E. REDUCING THEM TO IDENTICAL NUMBER. WE MUST NOT FORGET THAT SO FAR WE ARE STILL THE LOSERS IN THIS AFFAIR IN SENSE THAT WE LOST ONE SIXTH OF OUR COMPLEMENT BECAUSE OF THEIR RPT THEIR MISDEEDS WHILE THEY LOSE ONE-FIFTEENTH OF THEIRS. UNLESS WE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT INDEFINITELY AN OUTRAGEOUSLY ONE-SIDED SITUATION, WE MUST EITHER BE PREPARED TO USE THEIR IMBALANCES AS LEVER OR CUT THEM DOWN TO SIZE SO THAT THEY HURT SO MUCH AS WE DO WHEN THEY DO SOMETHING STUPID.

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4. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT LOCAL AFSA CHAPTER IS QUITE EXERCISED OVER THIS MATTER. I UNDERSTAND THAT TELEGRAM MAY BE SENT URGING AFSA WASHINGTON TO PRESS FOR MORE FORCEFUL REACTION.

5. YOU WILL BE GETTING MESSAGES TODAY REGARDING SOVIET HANKY-PANKY WITH U.S. BUSINESS REPS. MORE THAS BEEN GOING ON THAN WE HAD REALIZED AND THIS AGAIN POINTS UP FACT THAT SOVIETS ARE GROSSLY MISUSING THEIR POSITION TO HARRASS AND INTIMIDATE SELECTED BUSINESSMEN AS IT SUITS THEM. THE FIRMS USUALLY TAKE IT TO MAINTAIN BUSINESS RELATIONS AND OFTEN AVOID EVEN TELLING US. WHAT WE KNOW MAY BE MERELY TIP OF ICEBERG. IN GENERAL, UNLESS WE DO SOMETHING TO PUT THE BRAKE ON ALL OF THIS, THE MATTER WILL FESTER AS IT DID FOR THE BRITISH IN THE EARLY 70'S.

6. PLEASE DISCUSS ABOVE THOUGHTS WITH BILL LUERS.  
MATLOCK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014